

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 DHA-02 L-03 H-01 MMO-01 PER-01
ABF-01 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00 /061 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3986
INFO JCS WASHDC
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 1720

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:CASC, SHUM, PINS, MASS, PGOV, PINT, ES
SUBJECT: MILITARY RELATIONS AND REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS

REFS: (A) SAN SALVADOR 1628, (B) SAN SALVADOR 1660

1. WE NEED TO HAVE AN ADVISORY OPINION FROM THE DEPARTMENT SOONEST ON THE QUESTION OF WHAT RESIDUAL MILITARY RELATIONSHIPS MIGHT BE MAINTAINED WITH EL SALVADOR WHICH WOULD NOT REQUIRE A REPORT TO CONGRESS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION OR FURTHER CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY INTO WHAT THE GOES CONSIDERS TO BE ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS. AFTER RE-READING THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT INCLUDING THE REVISIONS UNDER SEC 502B AND 515B, WE DO NOT SEE REDUCTION OF MILITARY GROUP TO ANYTHING BUT ZERO, EVEN ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE OF DEFENSE COOPERATION, AS ELIMINATING THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT.

2. WE WOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT THOSE RESIDUAL AND OTHER FUNCTIONS DESCRIBED IN THE PARM (SEE REFTTEL A, PART I, PARA C. T.B.AND D. 3) WHICH IN OUR OWN INTEREST SHOULD BE CONTINUED, INDEPENDENT OF EL SALVADOR'S DETERMINATION TO RENOUNCE ANY RELATIONSHIP WHICH REQUIRES CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY INTO ITS HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. UNDER ASSUMPTION NO FURTHER PROPOSAL

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WILL BE MADE TO CONGRESS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE, COULD PERSONNEL BE ASSIGNED TO THE EMBASSY, EITHER TO THE DEFENSE ATTACHE'S OFFICE OR ELSEWHERE, TO PERFORM THESE RESIDUAL FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING CASH MILITARY SALES, WITHOUT BEING CONSIDERED AS PERSONNEL UNDER SEC 503 (A) (2) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT? A PROBLEM REALLY ARISES WITH THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF TERMINATION OF ALL PROJECTS UNDERWAY AND IN THE PIPELINE IN ONE

FELL SWOOP. CONSIDERABLE TIME IS REQUIRED EVEN TO FIND OUT WHERE ANY SPECIFIC PROJECT STANDS. SOME PROJECTS CAN BE TERMINATED ONLY WITH CONSIDERABLE PENALTY. ALTHOUGH GOES APPARENTLY WOULD LIKE TO FINISH SCHOOL TERM OF MILITARY STUDENTS NOW IN US OR CANAL ZONE THEY PROBABLY WOULD PULL THESE BACK TO PREVENT NECESSITY OF REPORT OR FURTHER CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY. FOREIGN MINISTER BORGONOVO EVEN MENTIONED TO US THE LONG TERM FOR PAYING BACK FMS LOANS OUTSTANDING, BUT STATED IF NECESSARY, GOES WOULD PAY THEM OFF IN ONE PAYMENT.

2. THUS WE REPEAT URGENTLY THE QUESTION CONTAINED IN THE PARM PART I.D. 2 WHETHER A RESIDUAL RELATIONSHIP ON SECURITY ASSISTANCE REQUIRES, OR DOES NOT REQUIRE, A REPORT TO CONGRESS UNDER SEC 502 B OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT, FOR THE NEXT YEAR. WITHOUT GIVING IMPRESSION WE WANT TO HELP SAVLADOR AVOID INQUIRY INTO ITS HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION, HOW DO WE ANSWER THE INEVITABLE QUESTION FROM THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY, QTE WHAT MILITARY RELATIONSHIP CAN WE MAINTAIN, AND HOW FAST AND TO WHAT EXTENT MUST THE PRESENT MILITARY RELATIONSHIP BE REDUCED, TO AVOID THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND US CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY INTO OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS? UNQTE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION WOULD BE INDEPENDENT, OF COURSE, OF ANY DECISION BY THE US TO REDUCE THE RELATIONSHIP EVEN FURTHER IF CONSIDERED ADVISABLE IN US NATIONAL INTEREST, OR OF ANY ACTION REQUIRED UNDER SEC 116 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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